(a) whether the Government propose to hold country-wise "Vidhi Melas" for the disposal of long pending cases, as a part of speedy remedy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D.KHALAP): (a) No Sir. But, nevertheless, the Lok Adalats are being organised by the State Legal Aid & Advice Boards/State Legal Services Authorities in different parts of the country from time to time for disposal of pending cases which are capable of resolution by the Lok Adalats. The recent Law Ministers' Conference have decided to hold intensive Lok Adalats from 15th August, 1997 to 15th August, 1998.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Procedure for Import of Goods

2799. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently simplified the procedure for import of goods to cut down on the delay in customs clearance of consignments; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the guidelines issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Section 46(3) of the Customs Act, 1962 provides for filing and processing of Import General Manifest and the import documents before arrival of the vessel or the aircraft carrying the goods into the country. Vide Circular No.22/97 dated 4.7.1997 the Government have notified the detailed procedure for filing the documents by the importers in advance of arrival of the vessel or aricraft and its processing in the Custom Houses. The procedure inter-alia prescribes the method for submission of the documents, noting and assessment of the documents.

[Translation]

Textile Design Exhibition

2800. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Textile Design Exhibition has been organised in Delhi during last 3 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof location-wise;

(c) the details of export orders received through such exhibitions country-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to organise more such exhibitions in the near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) No Textile Design exhibition as such was organised during the last 3 years. However, 12 design-cum-sale exhibitions under National Design Collection Programme were organised i.e. Lajpat Nagar (3), Lodhi Hotel (2), Wazirpur Industrial Area, Pritampura, South Extension, Khan Market, Rani Bagh, Krishna Nagar and Pragati Maidan. In addition to this, 4 dyeing and design exhibitions in the handloom cluster areas were organised by the Weavers Service Centre, Delhi to propagate modern dyeing designing and make available designs at the doorstep of weavers i.e. 2 at Weavers Service Centre, Bharat Nagar and one each at Sawan Park and Nand Nagri.

(c) No export order received for the items exhibited in these exhibitions.

(d) and (e) 2 Dyeing and design exhibitions are proposed to be organised by Weavers Service Centre, Delhi i.e. one each at Weavers Service Centre, Bharat Nagar and Sawan Park for the benefit of Weavers.

[English]

Investment in Core Sector

2801. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether as per the recent estimate, the country needs an investment of Rs. 1.80,000 crore in the core sector of the country;

(b) if so, break-up of the sectors and investment required; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to manage such huge farms for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The detailed investment requirements for the core and infrastructure sector of the country is presently being worked out and will be presented in the Ninth Five Year Plan Document.

To Improve Customer Services

2802. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the customer services in the nationalised banks;

(b) whether Government have appointed any Commission to suggest ways to improve the customer services in the banks; and

(c) if so, whether the Government have accepted any of the recommendation of the Committee/commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) It has been the constant endeavour of Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and individual banks to improve customer service.